



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. Sam Coleman, Administrator
US EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

RE: Initial Notification of Potential Exceptional Event for Ozone on September 13-14, 2017

Dear Mr. Coleman:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has observed an ozone episode during the period of September 13th through 14th of 2017 which appears to have been influenced by fires in the Pacific Northwest and other fires, and will be flagging all ozone data in the Air Quality System (AQS) as being influenced by fire.

We have concluded that the Pacific Northwest fires influenced the flagged data for the following reasons:

- Visible satellite plumes show smoke transport into the area starting in Lake Charles on September 13th;
- Ozone values were in many cases the highest of the year and are atypical during this period in previous years; and
- Information provided to DEQ by our forecast contractor during the event indicated that ozone and particulate concentrations in the area were being influenced by the wildfires.

In accordance with 40 CFR 50.14(c)(2), discussions are being scheduled between our offices to discuss this episode as it related to regulatory decisions and the scope of any exceptional events demonstration. If you have any questions or need further assistance please contact Vivian Aucoin of my staff at 225-219-3389.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Carr Brown".

Chuck Carr Brown, Ph.D.
Secretary

11/8/17

Date

c: Fran Verhalen, EPA R6 Air Monitoring/Grants Section Chief